

ORDER

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION

8110.10C

1/30/78

SUBJ: FAA APPROVALS OF MAJOR MODIFICATIONS/ALTERATIONS

1. PURPOSE. This order emphasizes that the appropriate Flight Standards engineering elements must approve design/technical data for major modifications/alterations which are identified in paragraph 5.a. of this order. This revision deletes reference to Federal Aviation Regulation (FAR) 43, Appendix A, paragraph (a), Action paragraph 5, since it has been determined to be inappropriate as related to the FAA approvals addressed in this order.
2. DISTRIBUTION. This order is distributed to the branch level and above in the Flight Standards offices in Washington; to the section level and above in Flight Standards offices in the regions and the Aeronautical Center; to the branch level in all area offices; to all Engineering and Manufacturing District Offices (including AEDOs); to all Flight Standards District Offices; to all General Aviation District Offices; to all Air Carrier District Offices; and International Field Offices.
3. CANCELLATION. This order cancels Order 8110.10B, dated September 21, 1977.
4. BACKGROUND. FAA has been criticized for the lack of uniformity in methods employed to approve major modifications/alterations. EMDOs/AEDOs require the applicant to furnish FAA engineering approved data, while other field offices have been "spot-approving" major modifications/alterations beyond the guidelines contained in Order 8310.4A. FAA engineering approval for design/technical data, which will be used to approve major modifications/alterations, is essential since this function is normally beyond the FAA inspector's scope of expertise. "Spot-approvals" have also resulted in design compatibility problems, since it is extremely difficult for the field inspector to determine compatibility with previously approved major modifications/alterations.
5. ACTION.
 - a. FAA engineering approval must be obtained for design/technical data used to approve major modifications/alterations which are identified in Order 8310.4A, Chapter 2, Section 3, paragraph 71/Order 8320.12, Chapter 6, Section 2, paragraph 1762. These design approvals must be issued in the form of a Supplemental Type Certificate (single or multiple) or an amendment to the Type Certificate, as provided for in FAR 21, Subpart E.

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b. All major modifications/alterations must conform to FAA-approved data.

c. Any major modifications/alterations which are being processed as field approvals must be coordinated with FAA Flight Test when flight characteristics could be affected.

d. This order does not apply to temporary installations/overweight operations authorized under the provisions of FAR 21.197.



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